Claims

1.-26. (cancelled)

27. (new) A system for the layout-oriented recording of
control-relevant information, comprising:
a first mechanism for graphically describing structures
comprising components;
a second mechanism for graphically establishing at least one
directed relationship between the components; and
a third mechanism for specifying a control-relevant
interconnection of the components depending on the established
relationships.

28. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein the
components are physical components.

29. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein the
control-relevant information is provided for recording for an
automation system of a process-engineering and/or production-
engineering plant.

30. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein the
components are embodied as types having type-dependent
properties and data interfaces.

31. (new) The system according to Claim 30, wherein the types
are provided in a library.

32. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein the
interconnection of the components is accomplished via the data
interfaces.

33. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein the establishment of the directed relationships between the components is accomplished on the basis of a material flow in a process-engineering and/or production-engineering plant.

34. (new) The system according to Claim 33, further comprising an information flow between the components which runs contrary to the material flow.

35. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein the establishment of the directed relationships between data interfaces of adjacent components is accomplished on the basis of a distance of the components from each other and by using information about the data interfaces.

36. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein type information, and/or entity information, and/or location information about the components is provided for use from the graphical layout.

37. (new) The system according to Claim 27, further comprising a fourth mechanism for the layout-oriented adding of further properties to the components.

38. (new) The system according to Claim 27, wherein the components are combined into groups in a layout-oriented manner.

39. (new) The system according to Claim 38, further comprising a layout-oriented assignment of higher-order semantics to the groups.

40. (new) The system according to Claim 27, further comprising

an assignment of elements for delimiting permitted value ranges, and/or attributes to components, and/or functional groups, and/or data interfaces.

41. (new) The system according to Claim 27, further comprising a layout-oriented generation of a network configuration for the communication of the components of a process-engineering and/or production-engineering plant.

42. (new) A method for layout-oriented acquiring of control-relevant information, comprising:
graphically describing structures having individual components;
graphically establishing at least one directed relationship between the individual components; and
defining a control-relevant interconnection of the individual components on the basis of the established relationships.

43. (new) The method according to Claim 42, wherein the control-relevant information is acquired for an automation system of a process-engineering and/or production-engineering plant.

44. (new) The method according to Claim 42, wherein the components are managed in a library as types having type-dependent properties and data interfaces.

45. (new) The method according to Claim 42, wherein the components are interconnected by data interfaces of the components.

46. (new) The method according to Claim 42, wherein the directed relationships between the components are arranged on

the basis of a material flow in a process-engineering and/or production-engineering plant.